

## Attachment 12

# Disadvantaged Community Assistance





**East Contra Costa County  
Proposition 84 Round 1 Implementation Grant Proposal**

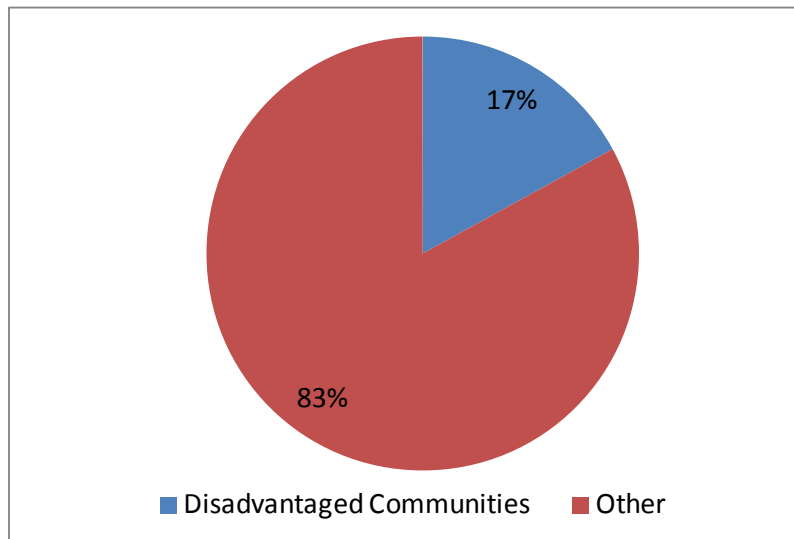
**ATTACHMENT 12 –  
DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE**

<b><u>PSP Requirements</u></b>	<b><u>Page</u></b>
Documentation of DACs within Region .....	12-1
Critical Needs of DACs .....	12-3
Targeted Benefits Provided by Proposed Projects .....	12-4
DAC Outreach and Representation .....	12-5

This attachment discusses how the Proposal addresses critical water quality needs of Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) within the East County Region. Letters of support for this Proposal and the projects that address these critical needs are provided at the end of this Attachment.

**Documentation of DACs within Region**

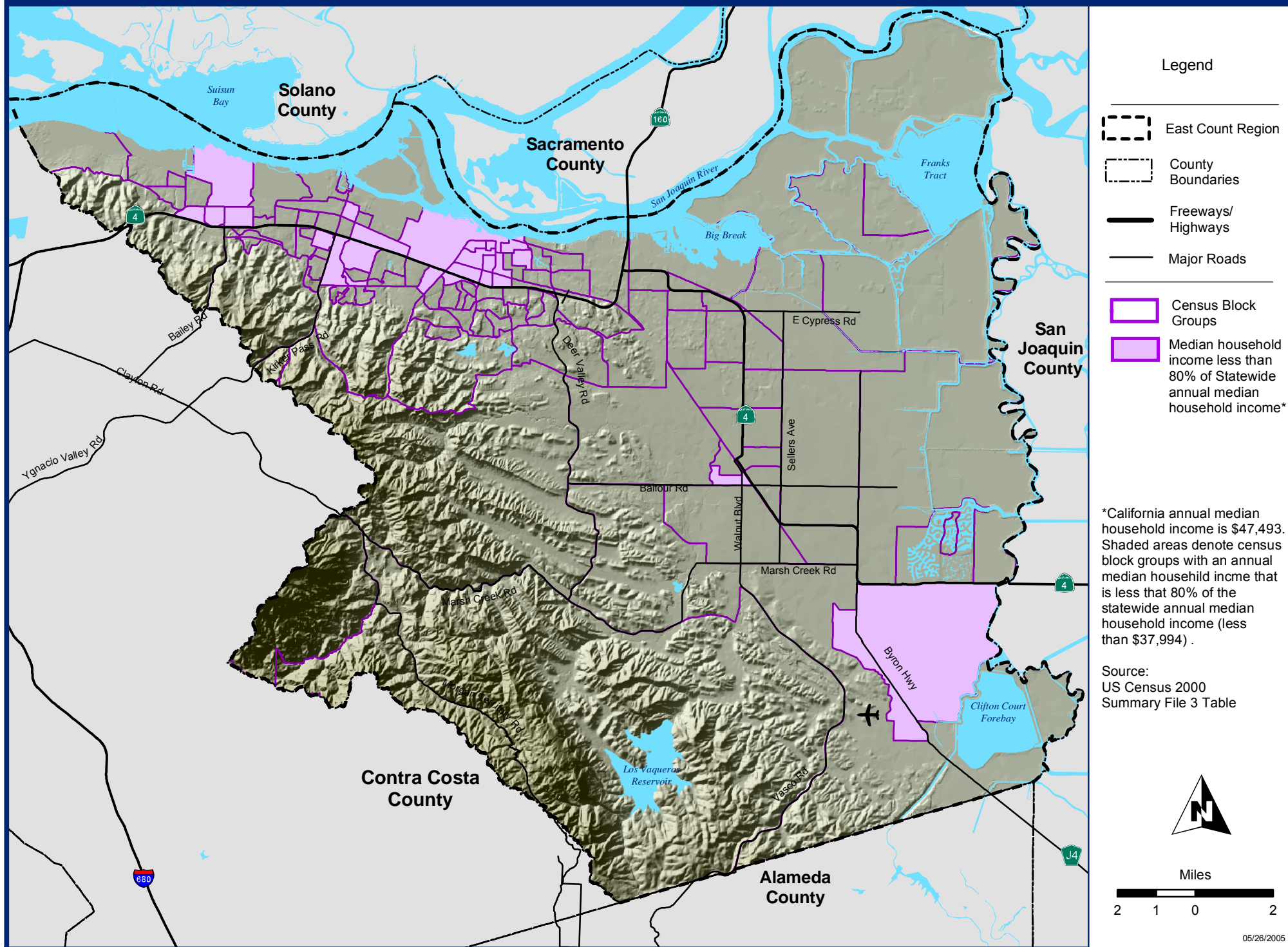
The East County Region covers an area of 222,093 acres and is home to approximately 238,702 people. As defined in the Proposition 84 Guidelines (Appendix B), a disadvantaged community is a community



with an annual Median Household Income (MHI) that is less than 80% of the statewide annual MHI, or \$37,994 by Census 2000 data. Figure 1 shows the locations of DACs within the East County Region based on this definition using Census 2000 data. Disadvantaged communities have been identified in the unincorporated communities of Bay Point and Byron as well as parts of the cities of Pittsburg and Antioch.

***Disadvantaged Communities Comprise Nearly 17%  
of East Contra Costa's Population***

Figure 1: Disadvantaged Communities in East Contra Costa County



Census block groups that qualify as disadvantaged communities cover an area of 14,430 acres and are home to 40,323 people, approximately 17% of the region's population. The MHI of the 25 DACs identified in Figure 1 ranges from \$19,042 to \$37,100, with an average MHI of \$31,524.

Measure	East County Total	Disadvantaged Communities	Percent of Total
Area (acres)	222,093	14,430	6.5%
Population (people)	238,702	40,323	16.9%

### **Critical Needs of DACs in Region**

Many of the critical water supply and water quality needs of DACs in East Contra Costa County are typical of communities throughout the Region. The primary water supply and water quality issues facing DACs relate to a strong reliance on Delta supplies.

#### ***Critical Water Supply Needs***

Critical water supply needs of DACs in East County include:

- Improved water supply reliability / reduced reliance on Delta supplies
- Affordability programs to offset the rising costs of water service

All of the water suppliers within the East County region rely on Delta supplies. The three water suppliers in East County that purchase untreated Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta supplies from CCWD (City of Pittsburg, City of Antioch, DWD) provide supplies to the bulk of the DACs in the region. Because of the region's heavy dependence upon Delta water supplies, events that threaten the quality or quantity of this supply could have significant ramifications on the economic viability of the entire region. This may be of particular concern for DACs, where economic conditions are below the Statewide average. Further, the rising cost of water in the region is a critical water supply-related issue for DACs. Agencies must continually balance the need to improve supply reliability through implementation of aggressive conservation, water recycling, potentially expensive groundwater treatment, and even desalination with a need to maintain water affordability for DACs. With the rising cost of service, access to drinking water threatens to become a luxury for disadvantaged communities in East County.

#### ***Critical Water Quality Needs***

Critical water quality needs of DACs in East County include:

- Groundwater arsenic treatment
- Delta water quality improvement
- Mitigation of flood-related water quality impacts

Ambient groundwater arsenic concentrations in the DWD service area exceed maximum contaminant levels, necessitating groundwater treatment in these DAC areas. In addition, Delta water supplies exhibit significant water quality variability. Currently, CCWD's Los Vaqueros Reservoir is used to improve the water quality delivered to its customers. Water is pumped into Los Vaqueros during spring

and early summer months when Delta water quality is good. During the late summer and fall, when Delta water quality is poor, Delta supplies are blended with the high quality water stored in Los Vaqueros Reservoir to improve the water quality delivered to CCWD's untreated and treated water customers. This approach has been effective at managing Delta water quality for CCWD's customers, though the variability of Delta water quality does pose potential supply restrictions.

Another critical water management issue facing DACs in East County is related to water quality and public health impacts associated with flooding. Many areas in the region are prone to flooding, and home values in flood-prone areas are typically lower than in surrounding areas. As a result, chronic flooding is a common issue for DACs. In addition to the property damages associated with flood impacts, flooding creates localized water quality issues, and can pose a public health threat.

Flooding in urban environments exposes residents to degraded – and potentially dangerous - flood waters. Degraded water quality of flood waters in urban areas poses a real threat to human health. Flood waters may contain potentially hazardous or infectious materials, such as fecal material from overflowing sewer systems, pathogens, agricultural runoff, and chemicals from commercial and industrial areas. As a result, contact with flood waters can cause infection and / or injury. Because flooding is a common problem in disadvantaged communities in East County, the water quality impacts caused by flooding and standing water pose a danger to residents in DACs throughout the region.

### **Targeted Benefits Provided by Proposed Projects**

Implementation of this Proposal will provide multiple benefits through regional project integration and incorporation of a wide variety of water management elements. Though projects that serve the region generally provide benefits to all East County communities, including DACs, the following project specifically aims to address impacts to a DAC within the East County Region.

Drainage Area 55 – West Antioch Creek Improvement Project: The City of Antioch is partnering with the Flood Control District to replace an undersized concrete trapezoidal channel and arch culverts to eliminate flooding to commercial and multi-family properties adjacent to the channel and within a disadvantaged community. Once implemented, the project will provide protection for a 25-year storm. Currently, there is no conveyance structure in place, and flood protection is inadequate to protect residents from flooding in the 1/2-year storm. Residents and businesses in the disadvantaged community located adjacent to this creek experience extensive flooding two to three times per year; this flooding is severe enough to inundate their homes with several inches of water, even in relatively small storms.

In addition to the flood damage itself, there are various constituents of concern in the water that pose a public health threat for those exposed. These constituents include fecal material from overflowing sewer systems, pathogens, agricultural runoff, and chemicals from commercial and industrial areas. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there is an increased risk of infection of water-borne diseases when direct contact occurs with polluted flood waters through wound infections, dermatitis, conjunctivitis, and ear, nose and throat infections. One epidemic-forming disease that may be contracted from body contact with flood waters is leptospirosis, a bacterial disease. Leptospirosis may be transmitted through contact of the skin or mucous membranes with contaminated water, damp soil or vegetation or mud contaminated with rodent urine. Flooding following rainfall assists in spreading the organism due to the proliferation of rodents which shed large amounts of leptospires in

their urine.<sup>1</sup> Leptospirosis outbreaks have occurred throughout the world, with a recent (2007) outbreak on a college campus in Oahu, HI following a flood event.

Ingestion of flood waters or of water contaminated with flood waters can cause a host of infections, ranging from mild to severe. A well-known example of disease outbreak following drinking water contamination occurred in Walkerton, Ontario in 2000 in which seven people died after consuming drinking water contaminated with E. Coli. In 1999, a dormitory sewage pit on County Fairgrounds in New York caused a major outbreak of waterborne disease, killing two people and hospitalizing 71 others.

The risk of infection posed by contacting and / or ingesting flood waters is severe. For communities plagued by chronic flooding, avoiding contact with flood waters may be impossible. This represents a significant health risk to those living and working in this disadvantaged community, and a critical water quality need. The Drainage Area 55 – West Antioch Creek Channel Improvements will protect this disadvantaged community from floods up to the 25-year event, all but removing the real and immediate public health risks posed by degraded flood water quality.

### **DAC Outreach and Representation**

Member of the East County Water Management Association (ECWMA) recognize the importance of incorporating stakeholders through all stages of water management planning and project implementation. An active stakeholder involvement process provides several benefits:

- Provides a forum for explaining the need for certain projects and projected benefits;
- Allows potential concerns and/or opposition to be addressed early-on so that projects can be planned in a way to minimize negative impacts and maximize benefits to all affected parties;
- Facilitates the sharing of data and solicitation of feedback from interested and/or affected stakeholders; and
- Helps garner support for implementation.

Although a formal “Environmental Justice” or Disadvantaged Community group does not exist for the East County Region, these communities have representation through several different forums in which ECWMA members are also involved:

- **Project-related meetings in DACs.** As part of the ***Drainage Area 55 – West Antioch Creek Improvement Project***, community meetings have been held in the DAC affected by water quality impacts associated with flooding. To-date, the City has hosted one such meeting at the County Fairgrounds during one of their Board meetings, and they plan to host a public outreach meeting in the impacted area to obtain comments regarding the proposed improvement plan. They have also met with several impacted business owners to determine most cost efficient project approach (i.e., open channel versus a box culvert system) and to gain their support for the proposed project.
- **Pittsburg City Council Meetings.** The City Council normally meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month in the City Council Chambers located at the Pittsburg Civic Center at 65 Civic Avenue.

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<sup>1</sup>World Health Organization, Flooding and communicable diseases fact sheet: [http://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/ems/flood\\_cds/en/](http://www.who.int/hac/techguidance/ems/flood_cds/en/). Accessed December 23, 2010.



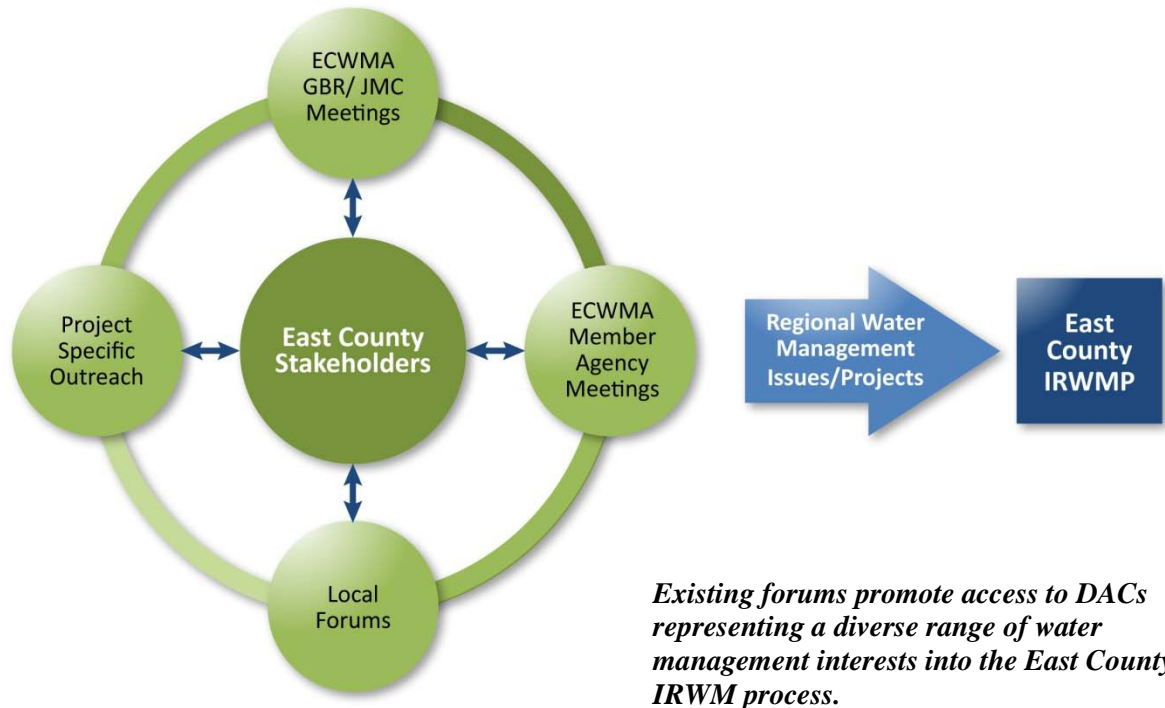
- Antioch City Council Meetings. The Antioch City Council normally meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Council Chambers.
- Contra Costa County Public Meetings. The East County Regional Planning Commission (ECRPC) meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Antioch City Council Chambers. The County Planning Commission meets at 7:00 pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Contra Costa County Administration Building
- Contra Costa Community Development Block Grant Program. The CDBG program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). It is the primary source of funds for the County's community development and housing programs. The purpose of the program is to develop viable urban communities by providing decent housing, a suitable living environment and expanded economic opportunities, principally for persons of very low- and low-income. The County directs these funds to housing, economic development, infrastructure improvements, public facilities, and public service projects designed to meet the needs of very low- and low-income persons.

### ***Steps to Engage DACs / Influence over Water Management Decisions***

The ECWMA routinely implements a variety of actions aimed at engaging DACs and other affected parties in the Region. Several mechanisms exist to identify DAC stakeholders and get them involved with various water management related issues and activities within the Region, including regularly held water management meetings, established forums and project-specific outreach efforts. These stakeholder involvement forums pre-date the development of the Functionally Equivalent IRWMP, and continue to be actively used by member agencies and stakeholders alike. As described below, these forums effectively promote access to entities and individuals representing a diverse range of water management interests. Through participation in these forums, DAC representatives are empowered to influence decisions made regarding their water management.

#### ECWMA Governing Board Representative (GBR) and Joint Managers Committee (JMC) Meetings

In accordance with the Agreement forming the ECWMA, the Governing Board Representatives (GBR), which is comprised of one elected official from each member agency, meets at least two times per year to discuss relevant water resources management issues and activities. The meeting locations vary throughout Eastern Contra Costa County in order to provide an opportunity for each of the member agencies to host coordination of the GBR meetings. These meetings are open to the public, noticed and conducted in accordance with the Brown Act. In addition, the Joint Managers Committee (JMC), which is comprised of managers from each of the member agencies, conducts periodic meetings as needed to coordinate and collaborate on regional water management issues that arise. Stakeholders can participate in these meetings.



The JMC was the forum in which ECWMA member agencies agreed to move forward with the development of the East County Functionally Equivalent Plan in 2005.

#### ECWMA Member Agency Meetings

In addition to the ECWMA meetings, each of the individual member agencies holds regular meetings (e.g. City Council meetings, Board meetings, etc) that are open to the public. These meetings provide a forum to provide input and feedback into on-going water management activities and raise any concerns and/or ideas they may have regarding the process.

In the context of IRWMP planning specifically, these meetings were (and continue to be) the forum for adoption of the Functionally Equivalent IRWMP and presentations by agency representatives on the East County IRWMP Working Group regarding the oversight of the IWMP Plan and implementation. The following table summarizes the frequency and other details relating to these meetings.

#### **ECWMA Member Agency Meetings**

Member Agency	Stakeholder Involvement Forum	Details (Frequency, Location, Time)	Notes
<b>Antioch</b>	City Council Meeting	Second and Fourth Tuesdays of each month in the Council Chambers.	Meeting agendas and minutes are available on the County's website. Interested parties can subscribe to receive notification by email when agendas are made available.
<b>Brentwood</b>	City Council Meeting	7:00 PM on the last Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers.	Live streaming of City Council meetings through the City's website is available. Interested parties can receive eNotification of agendas for upcoming



Member Agency	Stakeholder Involvement Forum	Details (Frequency, Location, Time)	Notes
			meetings. Meeting minutes are available on the City's website.
<b>BBID</b>	Board Meeting	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month	Meetings are held at the District's headquarters located in Byron. Agendas are posted at the meeting site.
<b>CCC</b>	Board of Supervisors Meeting	9:30 AM on Tuesday mornings at the County Administration Building.	Meetings are aired live on Tuesdays at 9:30 AM and replayed on Thursdays at 6:00 PM. Archived meetings are available on the County's website.
<b>CCWD</b>	Board Meeting	6:30 PM on the first and third Wednesdays of each month in the Board Room at the CCWD Office.	Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on CCWD website. Interested parties can also sign up to receive agendas via E-Mail.
<b>DDSD</b>	Board Meeting	5:30 PM on the second Wednesday of the month in the DDSD Board Room.	Agendas and meeting minutes are posted on DDSD's website.
<b>DWD</b>	Board Meeting	7:30 PM on the fourth Wednesday of each month in the District Office	Agendas and meeting minutes are posted on DWD's website.
<b>Discovery Bay CSD</b>	Board Meeting	7:00 PM on first and third Wednesday of each month at the Board Chambers	Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the Town of Discovery Bay CSD's website.
<b>ECCID</b>	Board Meeting	Second Tuesday of each Month at the District Office	Meeting notices, agendas, and supporting documentation are posted at least 72 hours in advance at the District office.
<b>ISD</b>	Board Meeting	7:30 PM on the first Tuesday of the month at the District Office in Oakley.	Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the Town of Discovery Bay ISD's website.
<b>Pittsburg</b>	City Council Meeting	7:00 PM on the first and third Mondays of each month in the City Council Chamber.	Agendas and minutes are available on the City's website.

#### Local Forums

Several other local forums that focus on water resources management-related issues also exist. These forums are regularly attended by ECWMA member agencies and provide another avenue for soliciting DAC stakeholder input and feedback into the water management planning and implementation activities.

Water Supply & Quality Forums	Wastewater & Recycled Water Forums	Flood/Stormwater Forums	Watershed/Habitat Forums
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contra Costa Council</li> <li>• Contra Costa County Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee</li> <li>• Sanitation and Water Agency Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biosolids to Energy Coalition</li> <li>• Sanitation and Water Agency Group</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contra Costa Clean Water Program</li> <li>• Contra Costa Watershed Forum</li> <li>• Delta Levee Coalition</li> <li>• Contra Costa County Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contra Costa Council</li> <li>• Contra Costa County Fish and Wildlife Committee</li> <li>• Contra Costa Watershed Forum</li> <li>• Dutch Slough Restoration Committee</li> <li>• East Contra Costa Habitat Conservancy</li> <li>• Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed</li> <li>• Kirker Creek – Partners for the Watershed</li> </ul>

***ECWMA Members Actively Engage DACs Through a Variety of Existing Forums***

Water Supply & Quality Forums

Several forums exist to discuss water supply and quality issues within the Eastern Contra Costa County Region. Members of the East County IRWMP Working Group regularly attend these forums and provide updates and solicit input into the IRWMP process.

- **Contra Costa Council – Water Task Force.** The Water Task Force provides input to the Council related to water issues affecting Contra Costa County and the region. It recommends advocacy positions on specific water projects as well as public policy initiatives that impact water quality and supply. The Task Force meets on the third Tuesday of each month. East County IRWMP Working Group representatives made a presentation to the Water Task Force in July 2006 and obtained input on the IRWMP process in East Contra Costa County.
- **Contra Costa County Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee.** This Committee, established by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors', monitors and advises the Board on specific referrals related to transportation, water & infrastructure. The Committee meets on the third Monday of each month. Monitoring the activities of the East Contra Costa IRWMP is one of the standing responsibilities of this Committee.
- **Sanitation and Water Agency Group.** This group is comprised of water and wastewater agency representatives within Contra Costa County. They meet quarterly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month and discuss relevant water and wastewater management issues.

### Wastewater & Recycled Water Forums

Several forums exist to discuss wastewater and recycled water issues within the Eastern Contra Costa County Region. Members of the East County IRWMP Working Group regularly attend these forums and provide updates and solicit input into the IRWMP process.

- **Sanitation and Water Agency Group.** This group is comprised of water and wastewater agency representatives within the Contra Costa County. They meet quarterly on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month and discuss relevant water and wastewater management issues.

### Flood & Stormwater Forums

Several forums exist to discuss flood and stormwater management issues within the Eastern Contra Costa County Region. Members of the East County IRWMP Working Group regularly attend these forums and provide updates and solicit input into the IRWMP process.

- **Contra Costa Clean Water Program.** The Contra Costa Clean Water Program consists of nineteen of the incorporated cities in Contra Costa County and the Contra Costa Flood Control & Water Conservation District. The primary purpose of the program is to eliminate storm water pollution through public education, inspection and enforcement activities and industrial outreach. Public education and industrial outreach meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month.
- **Contra Costa Watershed Forum.** This Forum is an open committee of around fifty organizations, including state and local agencies, local non-profit environmental and education organizations, community volunteer groups, and private citizens. The forum facilitates local agency and citizen collaboration, fosters innovative strategies for stewardship and protection of watershed resources, and encourages regional capacity building in Contra Costa County and neighboring areas. Meetings are usually held on the second Wednesday of alternate months.
- **Delta Levee Coalition.** The Delta Levee Coalition is comprised of Contra Costa County, the Contra Costa Council, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Contra Costa Water District and the reclamation districts for the eight western and central Delta islands, with support from the Delta Protection Commission. The purpose of the Delta Levee Coalition is to advocate for adequate funds from Propositions 84 and 1E to repair the fragile levees in the western and central Delta.
- **Contra Costa County Transportation, Water and Infrastructure Committee.** This Committee, established by the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors', monitors and advises the Board on specific referrals related to transportation, water & infrastructure. The committee meets on the third Monday of each month. Monitoring the activities of the East Contra Costa IRWMP is one of the standing responsibilities of this Committee

### Watershed & Habitat Forums

Several forums exist to discuss watershed and habitat issues within the Eastern Contra Costa County Region. Members of the East County IRWMP Working Group regularly attend these forums and provide updates and solicit input into the IRWMP process.

- **Contra Costa Council – Environmental Task Force.** The Environmental Task Force addresses issues concerning the environment which affect the members of the Contra Costa Council, the



business community, and residents of Contra Costa County. The Task Force meets the first Friday of every month.

- **Contra Costa Watershed Forum.** This forum exists to promote collaboration among interested stakeholder on issues related to creeks and watersheds in Contra Costa County. The forum includes participation by state and local agencies, local non-profit environmental and education organizations, community volunteer groups, and private citizens. The Forum meets the second Wednesday of every other month and those meetings are open to the public.
- **East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy.** This group, comprised of representatives from Brentwood, Clayton, Oakley, Pittsburg and Contra Costa County, is responsible for implementing the East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan / Natural Community Conservation Plan (HCP/NCCP or Plan) and strives to protect natural resources in eastern Contra Costa County and streamline the environmental permitting process for impacts on endangered species. Public meetings are held quarterly.
- **Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed.** The Friends of Marsh Creek Watershed is a community organization dedicated to the preservation and restoration of the Marsh Creek Watershed. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month from 6 – 8 PM in either Brentwood or Oakley.
- **Kirker Creek – Partners for the Watershed.** This group consists of educators, local governments and industries that carry out stewardship and environmental education projects within the watershed. They meet on a monthly basis and meetings are open to the public.

### ***Involvement in Planning Process***

In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings and forums, each of the ECWMA member agencies has implemented stakeholder and DAC outreach processes tailored to specific projects and/or studies. Participation in these processes has provided further opportunities for DAC representatives to influence decisions made regarding their water management.

Further, in December of 2010, DWR recommended a planning grant for the East County region, which will allow the region to update the IRWMP. As part of this update, the ECWMA member agencies are committed to engaging DAC representatives in the planning process. The ECWMA member agencies have articulated this commitment through their submittal of the Consent Form provided in Attachment 14. In this Consent Form, the member agencies affirm their intent to undertake all reasonable and feasible efforts to take into account water-related needs of disadvantaged communities in the area within the IRWM region.

Examples of stakeholder and DAC outreach associated with development of supporting documents for the current version of the Functionally Equivalent IRWMP and other regional projects are provided below.

Project / Plan	Stakeholder Involvement Process
<b>Delta Region Drinking Water Quality Management Plan</b>	The Delta Region Drinking Water Quality Management Plan incorporated extensive stakeholder outreach, including status reports and requests for input to stakeholders, as well as presentations to the CALFED Drinking Water Subcommittee.
<b>Phase II East County Water Supply Management Study</b>	This study included public notices, press releases, public workshops, presentations to stakeholder groups and development of a four-page color brochure for public distribution and communication of Study results.
<b>Future Water Supply Study</b>	The FWSS included extensive stakeholder outreach. Stakeholders were incorporated through Board of Directors' Workshops/Public Forums, a Customer Feedback Group, Interagency Workshops, and Newsletters. The Customer Feedback Group was established to represent all customer groups within the CCWD service area, as well as organizations concerned with public policy issues, and met numerous times over the course of the Study, helping to identify the Study's preferred alternative. The Customer Feedback Group was ultimately opened up to all interested parties, including the general public. The Interagency Group consisted of planning, resource, and regulatory agencies, and focused on assisting in identifying implementation and environmental issues associated with the alternatives. The public was notified periodically of the Study progress via newsletters.
<b>Diablo Water District Well Utilization Project Phase 1 and 2</b>	DWD has informed all stakeholders who may be potentially impacted by the project and has invited them to attend project information meetings. DWD has responded to stakeholder concerns and continues to answer questions on a regular basis. DWD has been in contact with the City of Brentwood, which is the closest municipality with a well that could be impacted by our project, however preliminary full flow testing of the new well has shown that there would be minimal impacts if any. The City of Brentwood and DWD are continuing to share ground water data on a regular basis.
<b>Diablo Water District AB 3030 Groundwater Management Plan</b>	Stakeholder participants in the 2007 Plan included Brentwood, CCWD, Discovery Bay, ECCID and City of Pittsburg. DWD recently contracted with Luhdorff and Scalmanini to update the information in the plan and include public involvement from a much broader group over the entire groundwater sub-basin area.
<b>Urban Water Management Plans</b>	Antioch, Brentwood, CCWD, DWD and Pittsburg each develop urban water management plans and conduct other water resources planning and management programs, through which public and stakeholder outreach mechanisms are implemented.
<b>East County Regional Industrial Reuse Plan</b>	Several stakeholder workshops were conducted throughout the development of the Plan to solicit input and feedback on the project. Stakeholders included major water providers (CCWD, Antioch, and Pittsburg); major wastewater agencies (DDSD, ISD, and Central San); industrial interests (PG&E and Mirant) and State Representatives (SWRCB).
<b>Ironhouse Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade/Expansion Project</b>	Several public outreach meetings were held to inform stakeholders of the project and solicit input.
<b>Stormwater Management Plan</b>	The importance of stakeholder outreach is highlighted in the Stormwater Management Plan, which identifies one of its goals as public outreach and education, aimed at educating businesses and individuals within the County to adopt less polluting and more environmentally sensitive practices.

Project / Plan	Stakeholder Involvement Process
<b>East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservation Plan/ Natural Community Conservation Plan</b>	An extensive public outreach program was conducted as part of the development of the HCP. The HCP Coordination Group consisted of a Stakeholder Panel, HCP Association staff and staff from State, Federal, and other regional agencies. The Coordination Group provided recommendations and advice to the Executive Governing Committee. The Stakeholder panel was designed to include organizations and interests with the most direct interest in the HCP process, including private permit seekers, conservation advocates, and private landowners and agriculturalists. Now that the HCP has moved from the planning to implementation phase, this is now a new group: the Public Advisory Committee (PAC). The PAC meets quarterly to provide input on the implementation of the HCP/NCCP.
<b>Dutch Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration Project</b>	The project is a component of the Dutch Slough Restoration project which includes quarterly stakeholder meetings and special public outreach events including the Dutch Slough Day of the Oakley Science Week.

### ***DAC Participation in East County Governance and Technical Assistance***

Through the stakeholder involvement mechanisms described above, the ECWMA member agencies are able to reach a broad range of stakeholders with diverse views within the region. These mechanisms for stakeholder involvement ensure that stakeholder interests are represented as the ECWMA member agencies develop integrated, multi-benefit, regional solutions to the water resources management issues.

East County governance incorporates DAC representatives through representation by public servants from the DACs. Specifically, the ECWMA includes representation from the following entities, which are tasked with representing the interests of their customers, including those in DACs:

- City of Antioch
- City of Pittsburg
- Byron-Bethany Irrigation District
- Contra Costa County

These entities not only represent the interests of their respective DACs, but they leverage the resources of their agencies to further critical DAC projects. In this way, they provide technical assistance to further the needs and objectives of their respective DACs.

### ***Addressing Environmental Justice Concerns***

While no environmental justice concerns have been identified for East County, IRWM Plan implementation is projected to provide benefits to disadvantaged communities within East County. As described above, disadvantaged communities have been identified within the general areas of Pittsburg and Antioch. Pittsburg and Antioch are the potential locations of several projects included in the Plan, including the Pittsburg Recycled Water Implementation Project, the Antioch Recycled Water Implementation Project, the Caltrans Recycled Water Implementation Project, the DDSD Feasibility-Level Desalination Plant, the City of Pittsburg Groundwater Study, Well Site Selections, and Design and Construction of two New Municipal Wells and development of a Groundwater Management Plan projects. These projects will improve water supply and quality within disadvantaged communities, and



provide irrigation to public parks within these communities. Similarly, the Dutch Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration Project will provide free public access to Delta shoreline. The stakeholder processes associated with these projects will include members of disadvantaged communities within the respective areas served. In addition, the CCWD Canal Improvement and CCWD Alternate Intake projects will improve water quality throughout East County, benefiting disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged communities alike.

The East County IRWM Plan will be implemented through completion of a series of short- and long-term priority projects. The Regional Objective of Maximizing Implementability cites addressing environmental justice and benefitting disadvantaged communities as potential implementation approaches. To ensure that the Regional Objectives and their associated implementation approaches would be realized through Plan implementation, Regional Objectives were used as a basis for prioritizing the region's priority short- and long-term implementation projects. Regional objectives are particularly important in the prioritization process because they reflect the common goals established by the participating agencies. As noted previously, DWR has recommended award of a planning grant to the East County region, to be used in revising and updating the IRWMP. As part of this update, the ECWMA member agencies are committed to further exploring potential environmental justice issues in the region, such that they may be better addressed.

Through this process, a series of projects and programs were identified for short- and long-term implementation. Many of these projects and programs meet the goals of addressing environmental justice and benefitting disadvantaged communities. Specifically, the following priority projects identified at the time of Plan preparation are expected to provide benefits to DACs:

- Antioch Recycled Water Implementation
- Antioch Water Treatment Plant Improvement Projects
- Caltrans Recycled Water Implementation
- DDSD Feasibility-Level Desalination Plant
- City of Pittsburg Groundwater Study, Well Site Selections, and Design and Construction of two New Municipal Wells and development of a Groundwater Management Plan
- Pittsburg Recycled Water Implementation

These projects will improve water supply and quality within disadvantaged communities, and provide irrigation to public parks within these communities. Similarly, the Dutch Slough Tidal Marsh Restoration Project will provide free public access to Delta shoreline. The stakeholder processes associated with these projects will include members of disadvantaged communities within the respective areas served. In addition, the CCWD Canal Improvement and CCWD Alternate Intake projects will improve water quality throughout East County, benefiting disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged communities alike.

**Attachments:**

Letters of Support



December 16, 2010

Mr. Trevor Joseph  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Water Management  
Financial Assistance Branch  
Post Office Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Subject: Support for the Drainage Area 55 – West Antioch Creek Channel Improvement Project

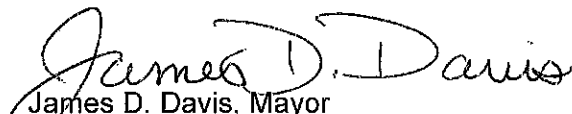
Dear Mr. Joseph:

On behalf of the City of Antioch, I would like to express our intention to support the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant proposal submitted by East Contra Costa County for Proposition 84 funding. Specifically, we wish to express support for the Drainage Area 55 – West Antioch Creek Channel Improvement Project.

This project involves replacing an undersized concrete trapezoidal channel and arch culverts to eliminate flooding to commercial and multi-family properties adjacent to the channel and within a Disadvantaged Community Area. In 1993, the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District constructed channel improvements for West Antioch Creek and improved flood capacity to a 25-year level of protection. The limited resources available at the time provided for a project that extended from the San Joaquin River to 8th Street in Antioch, but did not provide for improvements upstream from 8th Street. As a result, a gap exists between the 1993 channel improvements and the earthen channel on the Antioch Fairgrounds property. The commercial and multi-family properties adjacent to the deficient reach, which are located within a disadvantaged area of the community, experience flooding on nearly an annual basis. In addition to flood-related damages, continual flooding in this area causes chronic, localized water quality impacts, which would be addressed by the project.

We strongly recommend that you fund this project, which would not only address flooding issues, but would eliminate a chronic water quality issue in a disadvantaged community of East Contra Costa County.

Sincerely,

  
James D. Davis, Mayor  
City of Antioch

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor James D. Davis • Mayor Pro Tem Wade Harper • Council Members Brian Kalinowski, Mary Rocha, Gary S. Agopian  
P.O. Box 5007, Antioch, California 94531-5007 • Telephone: 925-779-7011 • Fax: 925-779-7003 • [www.ci.antioch.ca.us](http://www.ci.antioch.ca.us)





December 16, 2010

Mr. Trevor Joseph  
California Department of Water Resources  
Division of Integrated Water Management  
Financial Assistance Branch  
Post Office Box 942836  
Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

Subject: Support for Drainage Area 55 – West Antioch Creek channel Improvement Project

Dear Mr. Joseph,

On behalf of the 23<sup>rd</sup> District Agricultural Association, I would like to express our intention to support the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant proposal submitted by East Contra Costa County for Proposition 84 funding. Specifically, we wish to express support for the Drainage Area 55 – West Antioch Creek Channel Improvement Project.

This project involves replacing an undersized concrete trapezoidal channel and arch culverts to eliminate flooding to commercial and multi-family properties adjacent to the channel and within a Disadvantaged Community Area. In 1993, the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District constructed channel improvements for West Antioch Creek and improved flood capacity to a 25-year level of protection. The limited resources available at the time provided for a project that extended from the San Joaquin River to 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Antioch, but did not provide for improvements upstream of 8<sup>th</sup> Street. As a result, a gap exists between the 1993 channel improvements and the earthen channel on our property. The commercial and multi-family properties adjacent to the deficient reach, which are located within a disadvantaged area of the community, experience flooding on nearly an annual basis. In addition to flood-related damages, continual flooding in this area causes chronic, localized water quality impacts which would be addressed by the project.

We strongly recommend that you fund this project, which will not only address flooding issues, but will eliminate a chronic water quality issue in a disadvantaged community of East Contra Costa County.

Sincerely,

  
Lori Marshall  
CEO